



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Contact: Gary Yunt  
Notes Team Captain  
Churchill Downs Racetrack  
(610) 636-4460 (office)  
[Gary.Yunt@KyDerby.com](mailto:Gary.Yunt@KyDerby.com)

## CONNECTIONS QUOTES FROM THE 2020 KENTUCKY DERBY POST POSITION DRAW

LOUISVILLE, KY (Tuesday, Sept. 1, 2020) –

**FINNICK THE FIERCE (Post 1, 50-1)** – Co-owner/Trainer Rey Hernandez: “You know looking back, the best races he has been running came from the one position. He ran third in the Arkansas Derby from the one and especially going a mile and a quarter and how he comes from off the pace, I don’t think there is any issue.” “

**MAX PLAYER (Post 2, 30-1)** – Trainer Steve Asmussen: “All good.”

**ENFORCEABLE (Post 3, 30-1)** – Trainer Mark Casse: “I don’t think it changes much of anything. I thought going into the draw I didn’t think it was as important as where we drew as much as where others drew. There was some drama late but Tiz the Law ended up in a good spot. Authentic is going to definitely going to have to go and then Manny (Franco on Tiz the Law) and Mike (Smith on Honor A. P.) if they let Authentic get away, they may not run him down so they’re going to be sitting right behind him I believe and not letting him get too far away.”

**STORM THE COURT (Post 4, 50-1)** – Trainer Peter Eurton: “I like it. It could be a whole lot worse. He could be in the one, two or three. Or, even 18 and then we’d have to figure out how to get over. Now, he’s already over. He just has to get out of the gate and get somewhat of a forward position, but not be on the lead. There’s so much speed in there.”

**MAJOR FED (Post 5, 50-1)** – Trainer Greg Foley: “We were the first horse drawn so they didn’t even give us any drama. It did save me sweating out the inside post.”

**KING GUILLERMO (Post 6, 20-1)** – Owner Victor Martinez: “I think this is a perfect spot. It’s such an unbelievable dream of mine to be here in Kentucky. It’s very surreal and I am so excited for my entire family.”

**MONEY MOVES (Post 7, 30-1)** – Trainer Todd Pletcher: “Perfect. Very Pleased.”

**SOUTH BEND (Post 8, 50-1)** – Connections could not immediately be reached for comment.

**MR. BIG NEWS (Post 9, 50-1)** – Owner Chester Thomas: “We drew a great spot. Gabe should be able to get him to the inside into the turn. We’ll be set.”

**THOUSAND WORDS (Post 10, 15-1)/AUTHENTIC (Post 18, 8-1)** – Trainer Bob Baffert (via text): “Not ideal for Authentic but I’m OK with it. He’s out of harm’s way. Just glad to be in the gate.”

Jack Wolf, Starlight Racing, co-owner Authentic: “The one time he was out there in California he broke dead right so hopefully Johnny (VCelazquez) will be a stronger rider this time around. I guess it’s better than one or two. I would think so (he’ll have to send). The one hole now is basically what the old three hole was and there will probably be a couple scratches between now and then so maybe we do move in a couple spots.”

Jason Loutsch, racing manager Albaugh Family Stables, co-owner Thousand Words via text: “Good spot. Lots of bad numbers were left so I’m very happy.”

**NECKER ISLAND (Post 11, 50-1)** – Trainer Chris Hartman: “We’re good with it.”

**SOLE VOLANTE (Post 12, 30-1)** – Connections could not immediately be reached for comment.

**ATTACHMENT RATE (Post 13, 50-1)** – Trainer Dale Romans: “I always like horses to break on either side of my runners and this is a good spot for him to be.”

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**WINNING IMPRESSION (Post 14, 50-1)** – Trainer Dallas Stewart: “All good.”

**NY TRAFFIC (Post 15, 20-1)** – Trainer Saffie Joseph Jr.: “It’s a good post. Hopefully, he will break clean and (jockey) Paco (Lopez) can get him into a forward position without rushing him.”

**HONOR A. P. (Post 16, 5-1)** – Trainer John Shirreffs: “I just talked to (jockey) Mike (Smith) and he’s happy with it. I think it’s OK. There’s a long run to the first turn and I don’t have to worry about getting pushed down on the outside.”

**TIZ THE LAW (Post 17, 3-5)** – Trainer Barclay Tagg: “I like being on the outside, I didn’t particularly want to be out that far but he seems to handle everything that’s thrown at him so we’ll just have to leave it up to him. It gives you a chance, if you have any speed at all, it gives you a chance to get a better position.”

(No one has won out of post 17): “I just put those kind of things out of my mind. There are a lot of horses who didn’t win the Derby so frankly I’m not that worried about it.

“He’s a unique horse, I keep pinching myself because he’s such a unique horse. Everything we’ve asked him to do he just does it. He’s a strong horse, he’s not flighty but he’s on the muscle all the time. He’s so exciting in his races. You think he’s gotten in trouble here, in trouble there and next thing you know he’s in front. He’s a pretty amazing horse. I don’t know if I’ve seen a horse like him.

“He flew in from Albany and we met him here. He walked off the van, took a couple turns, did his business and started eating hay.”

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